

News From _____

U.S. Senator
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Byrd Delivers Once Again for Mercer County

Wood Education and Resource Center in Princeton, West Virginia, to receive \$2.673 million in Omnibus legislation

WASHINGTON, D.C.... U.S. Senator Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., has announced that \$2.673 million is included in the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations bill to sustain operations of the Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC) in Princeton, West Virginia. The Wood Education and Resource Center is a USDA Forest Service facility. Its mission is to facilitate interaction and information exchange with the forest products industry, in order to enhance opportunities for sustained forest products production in the eastern hardwood forest region of the United States.

“I am pleased to once again be able to secure funding for the Wood Education Resource Center,” Byrd said. “The Center helps to strengthen West Virginia’s hard wood industry, and the money it receives will undoubtedly assist the wood industry in remaining competitive and productive for the foreseeable future.”

The President’s FY 2009 budget only included \$1.923 million for the operations of WERC. Byrd secured additional dollars to sustain the operating budget at last years’ level. The Center supports managerial and technical innovation that keep businesses competitive. It provides state-of-the-art training, technology transfer, networking opportunities, applied research, and information. WERC serves the primary and secondary hardwood manufacturing industries located in the 35 [states](#) of the eastern hardwood [forest region](#). (Source: www.na.fs.fed.us/werc/)

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